

# FREE SPEECH



Free speech is protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Government institutions, like CSULB, may not restrict speech, except in limited circumstances, including as outlined in the Time, Place, and Manner policies. For more information, see CSU's Time, Place and Manner Policy FAQs.

## **FREE SPEECH INCLUDES SPEECH WITH WHICH YOU MIGHT DISAGREE**

As a member of a large and diverse University community, you may attend and participate in numerous events and activities on campus at which you hear or see others express views with which you deeply disagree. CSULB is committed to fostering a campus environment that values and critically engages with a diversity of viewpoints - even if some expressions are controversial or upsetting.

## **HATE SPEECH**

There is no universal or standard definition of "hate speech." It is a term used colloquially but has no legal implications, unless the speech falls into one or more very narrow exceptions to the First Amendment.



**Free Speech and  
CSULB Time, Place, and Manner Policy**



**CSU Time, Place, and Manner Policy**



**CSU Time, Place, and Manner Policy FAQs**



**Equity & Compliance Reporting**



## TIME, PLACE, & MANNER

*California State University*

CSULB may limit when and where protests and demonstrations take place on University Property through content and viewpoint neutral time, place, and manner restrictions.

The California State University (CSU) Systemwide Time, Place, and Manner (TPM) Policy aims to balance the need for maintaining a learning environment in which CSU's educational mission can be carried out without disruption with the need to foster and protect institutional integrity, academic freedom, and the rights of individuals.

The Policy supports free expression while establishing viewpoint neutral restrictions on the timing, manner, and location of expressive activity, including protests and demonstrations, to avoid interference with University operations and to serve other legitimate University interests, including campus safety. It includes enforcement provisions and information concerning consequences for violations.



## WHEN ENGAGING IN A DEMONSTRATION

*Tips for Organizing Student Activities on Campus*

**Prior to your demonstration:** Review the CSU and CSULB's Time, Place, and Manner Policies and clarify any questions with Student Life & Development at (562) 985-4181. Discuss logistics, location, speakers, etc. with SLD staff members to ensure a safe and successful event.

**Report safety concerns promptly:** Contact the University Police Department at (562) 985-4101 if you have any safety concerns.

**Plan for and prepare to remain peaceful:** Meet with your organizing team and discuss how they should respond in case they encounter or observe others engaging in offensive speech, behavior, or violence during your activities. Contact the designated law enforcement liaison – Dr. Daria Graham. In case of emergency, contact University Police at (562) 985-4101. Do not respond physically.

**Always:** Inform your participants of the need to familiarize themselves and comply with the CSU and CSULB's Time, Place, and Manner Policies and share this handout.

**Be aware:** Keep in mind that in the digital age, high quality video and audio is available for anyone to record and capture your event.

At CSULB, we are committed to an equitable educational environment for all students free of discrimination.

### **Equal Access & Opportunity**

Under Title VI, students are entitled to have equal access to educational opportunities, including admissions, academic programs, extracurricular activities, and support services, without discrimination based on race, color, or national origin.

### **Reporting Discrimination**

Students who experience or witness discrimination based Protected Status, including, but not limited to race, color, or national origin, should report concerns to the Office of Equity & Compliance (OEC). Knowing where and how to report is important.